

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated July 26, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter on page 8 of the Office Action, specifically that Claims 1-19 are allowed.

Applicants have added the limitation of allowable Claim 22 to Claim 20 in order to make Claim 20 allowable. The details of this change are discussed further in section III below.

II. Objections

The drawings have been amended to comply with the Examiner's recommendations, and the amendments are fully supported by the disclosure. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

The Figures were objected to for not showing the claimed element, *"the raised ribs of substantially round or oval shape extending from the outer surface of the combustion liner (Claim 21)."* Applicants respectfully submit that the raised ribs are disclosed through the incorporation by reference of U.S. Patent No. 6,681,578 as made in paragraph [0035] repeated hear for the Examiner's convenience, *"Fully turbulated liner 112 includes a plurality of discrete raised circular ribs or rings 140 on a cold side of combustor liner 112, such as those described in US. Patent No. 6,681,578, assigned to the assignee of the present application and is incorporated herein in its entirety."*

Figure 8 was objected to for using different reference characters, specifically "128" and "122" for the same element. Applicants have removed reference character "128" from Figure 8.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 3 and 8. These sheets, which include Figs. 3, 7, 8 and 9 replace the original sheets including Figs. 3, 7, 8 and 9. Fig. 3 has been amended to replace the reference character “112” with “46”. Fig. 8 has been amended to remove the reference character “128”.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (2)

Figure 3 was objected to for using *reference character "112" to designate both "an aft end of the combustion liner" and "a transition region."* Applicants have respectfully replaced the reference character "112" with reference character "46" to designate *"a transition region."*

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Davis et al. (US 4,719,748).

Applicants have incorporated the following elements of Claim 22 *"configuring said first flow annulus with a plurality of axial channels extending over a portion of an aft end portion of the liner parallel to each other, the cross-sectional area of each channel is one of substantially constant and varying along a length of the channel"* into independent Claim 20. Since Davis et al. does not disclose channels in the liner, Claim 20 should now be allowable. Consequently, Claim 22 has been withdrawn.

IV. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claim 21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Davis et al. (US 4,719,748) in view of Maeda (US 5,802,841).

Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art cited does not suggest the combination of the turbulators of Claim 21 with the axial flow channels of Claim 20, and therefore Claim 21 should be allowable.

Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Davis et al. (US 4,719,748) in view of Bland (US 6,494,044).

Applicants respectfully submit that the teachings of Davis et al. and Bland together do not suggest the combination of the flow catcher devices of Claim 25 with the axial flow channels of Claim 20, and therefore Claim 25 should be allowable.

V. Conclusion

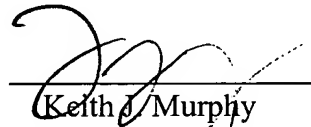
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicant's attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 24, 2005